

CANNONS

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October 1999

Alberta Law Review Dedicates House to Founding Editor

By Christine Mazur (3L)

In a lavish ceremony held at the Timms Centre for the Arts on Friday, Sept. 10th, the Alberta Law Review honoured its long-time benefactor and co-founder, the Honourable William A. Stevenson, by naming its new house location after him. The house, located across the street from the University of Alberta Law Centre, was offered to the Law Faculty last year. The Alberta Law Review formerly shared an office with the Law Students' Association in the Law Centre. The house was renovated this summer and is now fully in use by the Law Review staff as *The Honourable W. A. Stevenson Alberta Law Review House*.

The Alberta Law Review (ALR) was resurrected in 1955 by Justice Stevenson, then a student at the Law Faculty. As the first student-run Law Review in Canada, the ALR today has the largest distribution of any Law Review in the country with subscribers all over the

world and is even available on the internet. Contributing writers are usually University Professors and writers from across Canada. Three issues of the quarterly journal are published by the University of Alberta and the forth by the University of Calgary.

According to the Honourable Justice J. E. Cote who introduced Justice Stevenson, the Alberta Law Review is a journal that "bridges the gap between the

theoretical and the practical" and is "a valuable tool for Academic and Practitioner alike." The Honourable Anne McLelland, also speaking at the dedication, said the ALR is an important forum in

the study of legal issues, which "encourages us to study, discourse, argue and act."

Other distinguished

students and young lawyers." He was always a "judge in waiting" and as a lawyer had a reputation for being fair minded.

Over the years, Justice Stevenson has contributed much to the ALR as both its mentor and benefactor. According to Caroline Cox, one of last year's editors, Justice Stevenson is still active with the ALR, helping the student editors with advice on "how to run things." She adds that Justice Stevenson was an obvious choice for the house dedication, given his commitment and involvement. His present involvement also includes judging for the William Morrow Essay Contest, held annually by the ALR.

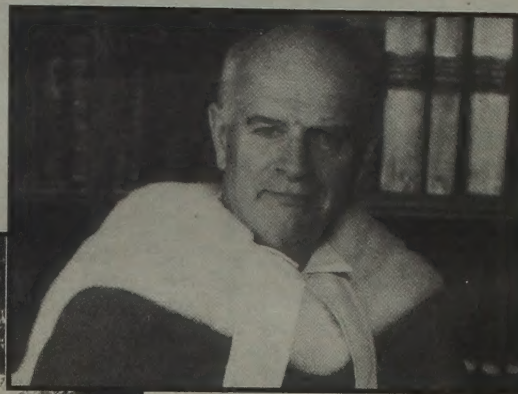
When asked how he felt at having the ALR house named after him, Justice Stevenson replied, "Astonished!" He is grateful for the recognition and in keeping with the modesty for which he is known, Justice Stevenson adds he was not expecting such recognition from the ALR. Larissa Katz Lang and Marian Fluker, this year's Co-Editors-in-Chief, presented Justice Stevenson with a rare book to be donated by the ALR on his behalf to the Special Collections section of the Law Library.

guests at the dedication included Chief Justice Kathleen Fraser, Dr. Raj Pannu, MLA for Edmonton-Strathcona, as well as family and friends of Justice Stevenson.

Justice Cote described Justice Stevenson as "the best student ever to graduate from the University of Alberta's Faculty of Law," and a "top-flight litigator" whose priority and interest "has always been law stu-



Honourable W.A. Stevenson Alberta Law Review House



Honourable W.A. Stevenson

PHOTO BY MARIAN FLUKER

U of A Law Students Win First, Tie for Second Prize in Mactaggart Essay Contest

By Christine Mazur (3L)

Two of our faculty's finest snapped up the top prizes in this year's Sir John A. Mactaggart Essay Prize in Environmental Law run annually by the Environmental Law Centre in Edmonton. Brad Mandrusiak (3L) was awarded first prize for his essay: *Playing With Fire - The Premature Release of Genetically Engineered Plants into the Canadian Environment*. Andrew Bachelder (3L) tied for second prize with Marshall Ogan of the University of Windsor for his essay: *Using Credit Trading to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Canada*.

Brad's paper examines "whether the current legislative and regulatory scheme" in Canada governing the commercialization of biotechnology products "is capable of preventing or mitigating any large-scale ecological disaster." The paper identifies a very real problem existing today where "despite unknown environmental risks and hazards, GMPs [genetically modified plants] are being released into the Canadian environment in massive quantities." Brad concludes, by identifying the need for "stricter regulatory controls over biotechnology" and the need for changes both procedural and philosophical in nature

in the federal government's approach to legislating on this subject.

Andrew's essay discusses Canada's responsibility for and role in eliminating emissions of greenhouse gases, and the benefits of "implementing a national emissions trading program." The paper argues "that a federally



First Prize Winner
Brad Mandrusiak

regulated national emissions trading system, constitutionally justified under s.91 of the Constitutional Act, 1867, is the best way to achieve Canada's international commitment under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

Members of the 1999 volunteer selection committee were: Alastair Mactaggart (Honorary), Jennifer Klimek (Chair), Raymond Bodnarek of Alberta Justice, Linda Duncan,

and Robert Seidel, Q.C. of Lucas, Bowker & White.

The capital for this prize was donated by the Mactaggart Third Fund. Additional contributions were made by Carswell and the charitable donors to the Environmental Law Centre.

Past winners from the U of A Law Faculty include Shauna Finlay, 1st prize (1998), Barbara von Tigerstrom, 1st Prize (1997), Jennifer Scott, 1st prize (1995), Steven A. Penney, 1st prize (1993) and Carole Hunt, 2nd prize (1993).

The top prize of the Mactaggart Essay Prize is \$500 and a volume of the winner's choice from Carswell. The winning essay will be considered for publication in the *Journal of Environmental Law and Practice*. The Prize is open to undergraduate and graduate students attending a recognized law school in Canada. Prizes are awarded for essays of high quality which address an issue in environmental law which is original, significant and relevant to Canada. Maximum essay length is 8,000 words and may be submitted in either English or French. Detailed guidelines are available from the Environmental Law Centre or at www.elc.ab.ca.

Pro Bono Students of Canada Needs You!

By Dennis Schmidt (2L)

Thanks to the efforts of Professor Jim Robb, the Pro Bono Students of Canada (PBSC) has arrived at our Faculty. This organization originated in the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto. It branched out to a number of law faculties in Ontario and has since grown into a national network of law faculties and their students in addition to legal professionals and community organizations.

Our fellow law student, Leah Teasdale (2L), has filled the role of Student Coordinator with PBSC. The goal of PBSC, explains Leah, is to "provide non-profit community organizations and agencies with the legal services that would otherwise be unavailable, as well as provide law students with an avenue to assess viable career options and gain valuable practical experience."

Indeed, significant interest has been expressed in PBSC and the services it can provide. Leah found an overwhelming response to the idea after approaching a number of organizations in the community. "The community of Edmonton has a huge need for affordable

legal services and are thrilled at the opportunity to utilize such services," Leah says.

The way Pro Bono works, students are matched with a willing organization that has a project similar to their interests. So far, the number and subject matter of projects vary with many new local groups and agencies coming on board. Specific projects currently available deal with issues pertaining to corporate/commercial, aboriginal, immigration, environmental, criminal, and property law as well as women's issues.

Students who undertake one of these projects do so under the guidance of a practicing lawyer. As for the legal community, Leah states that they are "excited." "Terry Clackson of the Law Society of Alberta expressed the legal community's delight at this new initiative."

With the great variety of student groups vying for everyone's precious time, PBSC is a service that students can undertake whenever they are free. The commitment of time is approximately 3 hours a week but this is subject to the needs of the organization and the student. Undeni-

Continued Page 2...

Minister Dion States That the Opinion by the Supreme Court on Unilateral Secession is a Turning Point in Canadian History

[The following press release was prepared by the Government of Canada, Privy Council Office and reproduced here for those of you who attended El Hacco and missed receiving a hardcopy of the entire speech yourselves. - Ed.]

Edmonton, Alberta - Speaking to students and faculty at the Centre for Constitutional Studies at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, the President of the Privy Council and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, the Honourable Stéphane Dion, said on Sept. 24th that the opinion on unilateral secession rendered by the Supreme Court of Canada on

August 20, 1998, was a watershed in the history of the Canadian federation.

The Minister noted that the Court confirmed that a unilateral secession would have no basis in law. The Court stated that, in law, secession requires a constitutional amendment, which has to be negotiated. The Court added that only clear support for secession can give rise to an obligation to undertake such constitutional obligations.

The Minister said that he saw this opinion by the Supreme Court of Canada as the confirmation of a right enjoyed by Quebecers: "the right never to have their full belonging to Canada

challenged unless they have clearly expressed their desire to renounce it." He indicated that the Government of Quebec, contrary to what it had believed, could not invoke international law to effect secession unilaterally. It would have to negotiate it within the Canadian constitutional framework and in accordance with the constitutional principles of federalism, democracy, the rule of law, and the protection of minorities, acknowledging that nothing could be ruled out, including negotiations on boundaries, the Minister explained.

Government, and then to put that question to Quebec voters. But the Government of Canada, as a 'political actor' and a 'participant in Confederation,' also has the duty to make its own evalua-

tion of the clarity of the question and the majority, before concluding that it is bound to negotiate the break-up of Canada."

Pro Bono

Pro Bono Continued Page 1

ably, the practical experience that one can gain from PBSC will add to the limited exposure to the "real world" of the legal profession that we currently receive here at the U of A.

Many students may question the validity or practicality of PBSC with Student Legal Services (SLS) already offered on campus and available for law students to donate their time to. However, Leah states that "although there may be some overlap with the legal reform aspect of SLS, the services that they and PBSC provide compliment each other but deal with community organizations and legal research

rather than individuals and personal issues."

Those who attended the recent open house seminar on PBSC found that this organization will provide them with a base of practical knowledge that many of us do not experience here at the U of A. Hopefully PBSC is a service for which law students here at the Faculty will be recognized in the community and remembered for well into the future. Indeed, its arrival here at the U of A is perhaps long overdue.

The obligation to negotiate can stem only from "a decision of a clear majority of the population of Quebec on a clear question to pursue secession," the Minister stated, citing paragraph 93 of the Court's opinion. There is no such obligation, he explained, if the expression of democratic will "is itself fraught with ambiguities. Only the political actors," the Court stipulated, "would have the information and expertise to make the appropriate judgment as to the point at which, and the circumstances in which, those ambiguities are resolved one way or the other." (par. 100)

As a result, Mr. Dion added, "the Government of Quebec is certainly free to use its parliamentary majority to have the National Assembly adopt a referendum question drafted by the

Career Services Update

By Carol Lawrence, Career Services Officer

I'd like to welcome all new and returning students to the Faculty of Law and wish you a successful year. In this column I thought I'd set out some general information as well as some news on an important faculty initiative that you may find useful.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF IMPORTANT TIME FRAMES:

Summer positions for first year students in some Alberta law firms become available in the late fall and early new year. Students in second year will also see summer job opportunities coming up beginning this fall and, of course, the search for articles will get underway as early as the middle of next term. A highlight for the second year students next term will be Career Day, hosted on February 4 by the Articling Com-

mittee. Third years who already have articles will need to keep posted for notices concerning applicable bar admission course and law society registrations, and those still looking for articles/employment will want to watch the job postings and continue their efforts in that regard.

I use e-mail, the under-glass area and this newspaper extensively to keep students advised of job postings, news and events that may be relevant to them in the area of legal careers. I encourage you to watch for these things and to attend the series of Legal Career seminars which the Articling Committee and I have already begun hosting. I also encourage you to seek out information, leads and contacts that may be relevant to you, as it is a mistake to assume that all job opportunities are advertised.

You are welcome to see

me privately about any career planning or job search matters that may be of concern to you including, but not limited to, resume preparation and strategies for targeting smaller firm opportunities. I also invite you to visit the Resource Room in the outer area of my office. Copies of all job postings under glass are kept in binders in this room, together with a variety of other career-related books and materials. My office's Internet home page is accessible on the Faculty's website (www.law.ualberta.ca) via the Student Services icon. Last summer I gathered a series of Web Addresses of interest to law student in the career area, including those of several law firms, and they have now been included in the Legal Resources area of the Faculty's Web Site.

FACULTY PROPOSAL TO LAW SOCIETY RE: ARTICLING HIRING RULES:

Last May in response an invitation from the Education Committee of the Law Society of Alberta, the faculties of law at the Universities of Alberta and Calgary submitted a joint proposal to the Law Society which requests the Society to establish a set of guidelines governing the recruitment of articling students in Alberta. The proposal took into account comments received from students over a period of a few years and calls for a ban of hiring of any articling students prior to the completion of second year law and for the same hiring periods to apply to Edmonton and Calgary firms as well as to match and non-match firms. A draft set of hiring guidelines was included in the proposal.

The Law Society has invited input from the profession on this proposal, and I hope that you have all seen the notices around the school inviting you to view a copy of the proposal (available on reserve in the library, the Articling Committee office or my office) and to attend the noon-hour student forum on the proposal on October 12 in Room 237. The Benchers of the Law Society are expected to consider this matter in early November, and a unified voice from the law school will go a long way to the successful implementation of guidelines. I welcome your comments. I look forward to working with you this year to help you achieve your career goals.

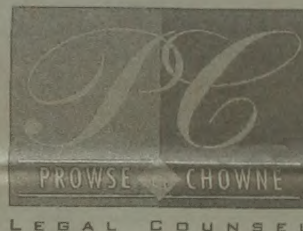
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All Law students and interested parties in the legal community are encouraged to contribute submissions, provided that contributions are accompanied by name, student number and telephone number. No articles will be published anonymously.

Cannons reserves the right to edit submissions for content, length, and legality.

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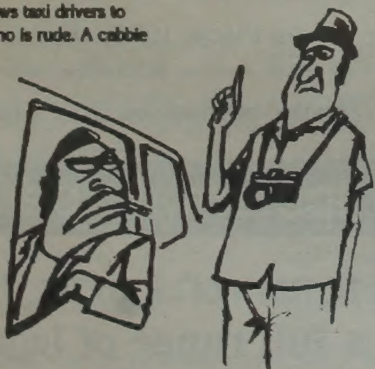
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The law in Paris, France, allows taxi drivers to refuse to take a passenger who is rude. A cabbie can also refuse service to anyone who makes uncomplimentary remarks while getting into the cab. Other reasons a French cabbie can decline a person's patronage: if he feels the person would leave a disagreeable smell in his taxi; if the passenger has a dog or other animals and the cabbie doesn't like animals to ride in his cab.



Fourthright Views: What A September!!

By Lewis Klar, June Ross, Ted DeCoste

Welcome everyone to the new academic year and the first column of Fourthright Views. All we have to say is: What a September!

September has been an unbelievable month. The year was off to a great start with first year Orientation, and then we moved quickly to the dedication ceremony for the new Hon. W.A. Stevenson Alberta Law Review House. This was soon followed by the visit of six Japanese law professors and a very interesting seminar. September also saw the visit by The Hon. Rosalie Abella who was our 1999 Merv Leitch, Q.C. Visiting Chair in Law, and Professor Leonard Leigh, a 1999 Wilbur F. Bowker Visiting Professor. If this were not enough, the Hon. Stephane Dion also visited the Faculty in September.

One of the highlights of the month was the Builders Dinner. The Faculty honoured eight exceptional individuals who in a variety of different ways have contributed to the growth and development of our law school. These eight persons are the late Hon. Tevie Miller, the late Professor Alexander Smith, Mr. Gary Campbell, Q.C., the Hon. Peter T. Costigan, Mr. Peter Freeman Q.C., Ms. Lillian V. MacPherson, Mr. Rod McLennan Q.C. and the Hon. Ellen I. Picard. The dinner was held at the Faculty Club and was sold out weeks before the event. This is a reflection of the very high regard which all associated with our school have for the eight Builders and the great enthusiasm for our school which exists in our community.

September ended with the induction into the University of Alberta's Alumni Wall of Honour of the law faculty's nominee and alumnus Mr. Wilton Littlechild.

And how about that outstanding performance of the Faculty baseball team? Led by our new research scholar and Constitutional Law Professor James Guest, who hit three home runs, the Faculty team went through the tournament undefeated. All aspects of our game were superb, and with the possible exception of the surprising strike-out by speedy Moe Litman, all players were at the top of their game. Thanks to all the student organizers for a great afternoon.

All months of the year will not be as busy, exciting and encouraging as was this special September. September, however, is symptomatic of the great energy and enthusiasm which marks our Faculty of Law. We on the fourth floor look forward to the up-coming months with great anticipation and wish everyone a great, new academic year. On a final note students interested in our competitive mootings should watch out for the Jim Brimacombe Selection Round towards the end of October. Notices will go up soon.

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1999 Mirv Leech Lecturer Abella Moves Captive Audience

By Christine Mazur (3L)

The Hon. Justice Rosalie Abella left her captive audience enlightened and inspired after delivering the 1999 Mirv Leech Lecture, Sept. 24th at the U of A Law Centre. Justice Abella spoke on the development of Women's Rights as a branch of Human Rights.

Dean Klar's introductory speech painted a picture of an individual of incredible achievements and outlined her extensive contributions to human rights, Judicial and Legal Education and Legal Reform.

Justice Abella in person is an individual who speaks volumes in a few carefully chosen and concise words. In her talk she described the changes happening in male and female relations and discussed the backlash rising against the movement of minorities and oppressed groups who wished to claim recognition of their rights. From McCarthyism in the '50's to demands for equality in the '70's, to the '90's which have "come full circle to the '50's again," Abella, J. concluded that "feminists have lost the public relations war and won the public's

ingratitude."

Abella, J. discussed with concern the backlash trend against the "rights frenzy" of the '80's: "As more groups spoke of rights, more people outside groups wanted the right to be free from pluralism." Some rights, however, she emphasized, are more equal than others. She explains this conclusion by noting that "Intellectual Pluralism cannot tolerate that racism and intolerance are equal to equality and tolerance."

"The word 'feminist',"

she observed, "seems to be the adult equivalent of saying 'boo!'" It's the poltergeist of modern discourse." Abella, J. then posed us a simple question that arises out of the public dislike for the outdated word used to describe people desiring equal rights for all people: "What is so scary about getting rid of discrimination of women?"

Abella, J. concluded by acknowledging that our generation has "come a long way" with respect for gaining equal rights, but for every woman who has risen beyond her "glass ceiling,

there are 1,000 who see it as one more thing to polish." Women still earn less money than they should and have less child care than they should among numerous other very real inequalities. "The only thing they have more of than men is poverty." These women, Abella, J. says, "are waiting for human rights to hit them" and "they expect and are constitutionally right to expect equality." Justice Abella's last message to us was "Lawyers have the duty to make justice possible."

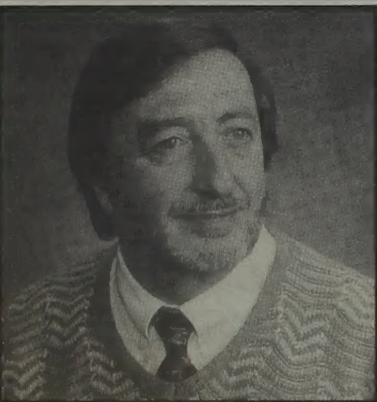
Professors Ross and DeCoste Appointed Associate Deans

By Matthew Lowry (1L)

The Faculty of Law at the University of Alberta is a large department requiring a great deal of administration. June Ross and Frederick DeCoste have recently joined this administrative battle to provide a quality legal education by accepting Associate Dean positions.

After attaining an L.L.B. from the University of Alberta and practicing for a couple of years with a local firm, June Ross returned to the academic world to complete an L.L.M.

from the University of Virginia. She then returned to Edmonton to practice constitutional law for eight years, before joining the Faculty of Law in 1988. June Ross decided to teach at the University of Alberta because the academic world provided a good way to maintain expertise in her field and because the somewhat slower pace was more amenable to raising a family. Prof. Ross's teaching and research interests include constitutional law, civil procedure, human rights law, and professional responsibility. She is highly experienced in administrative



Professor Ted DeCoste

nological proficiency among the faculty members to aid in their research and in the presentation of teaching materials. This is an area where Prof. Ross is leading by example since she was a technological neophyte when she first joined the Faculty and is still not

completely comfortable with all of the available technology. Nevertheless, she feels that once you are used to it there is no other way to function because it is so much easier to organize files and material.

Frederick DeCoste began his legal studies in his late 30's at the University of Saskatchewan with every intention to practice law. However, after passing the bar and practicing for a short time, Prof. DeCoste decided that he could make a far greater contribution to law through academics than by practicing at the bar. Thereafter, he attained an L.L.M. from the Osgoode Hall Law School at

York University and subsequently joined the Faculty of Law at the University of Alberta in 1987. Prof. DeCoste teaches torts and courses in jurisprudence that have concerned feminism, liberal theories of

law, law and religion, and law and the Holocaust. Associate Dean DeCoste's main focus is the L.L.M. program. He is currently undertaking a major re-programming to follow several recommendations of an external review. Two key areas that will be altered in the L.L.M. program are a curriculum review that may modify existing courses or add new graduate core courses and an intensification of the efforts to recruit quality graduate students.

Both Profs. Ross and DeCoste contend that the University of Alberta has a fine law school. Prof. DeCoste feels that while there are differences between the programs at the various Canadian Law Schools, the quality of education received at any particular Law School in Canada is comparable. However, a distinct advantage that graduates of the University of Alberta Faculty of Law have is that the program includes a number of upper year courses that are required for all students. Prof. DeCoste contends that these courses better prepare students to actually practice law. Prof. DeCoste urges the students to take advantage of the many fine courses available to them because there is no better thing than being a lawyer. In closing, Prof.

DeCoste leaves this message: "Law is a serious and wonderful undertaking and development of the craft takes a lifetime, but success or failure depends on the number and the quality of courses you have taken."

When asked how she feels the University of Alberta Law School rates, Prof. Ross replies that the Faculty of Law is a great school and that the quality of teaching is comparable to the University of Virginia which is among the

top-20 U.S. law schools. The faculty members at this institution are highly engaging and stimulate the minds of the students. They are continually striving for a thoughtful approach to the subjects they teach and try to incorporate the most up-to-date information. Prof. Ross suggests that the Faculty of Law has a wonderful balance between teaching and writing and between preparing students to practice and the research interests of the faculty members. Prof. Ross is committed to maintaining that balance.

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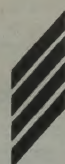
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Prof. Ross would like to see an increased focus on the admissions process to the Faculty of Law. Some of the changes that she feels bear contemplating in this area could include actively recruiting quality law students, obtaining more information from applicants to make admissions decision, and hiring more staff to help with the selection process. She believes that having a top-notch student body is really important to producing a top-notch school.

Prof. Ross is also encouraging an increased level of tech-

nical proficiency among the faculty members to aid in their research and in the presentation of teaching materials. This is an area where Prof. Ross is leading by example since she was a technological neophyte when she first joined the Faculty and is still not

completely comfortable with all of the available technology. Nevertheless, she feels that once you are used to it there is no other way to function because it is so much easier to organize files and material. Frederick DeCoste began his legal studies in his late 30's at the University of Saskatchewan with every intention to practice law. However, after passing the bar and practicing for a short time, Prof. DeCoste decided that he could make a far greater contribution to law through academics than by practicing at the bar. Thereafter, he attained an L.L.M. from the Osgoode Hall Law School at

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Placement Rates for the Classes of 1998, 1999 and 2000

By Carol Lawrence, Careers Services Officer

Thanks to the cooperation of the third years, who so willingly respond to my surveys, I am able to track job placement information starting in September of third year and monthly thereafter. This allows me to keep track of which employers hire our students (including those that do not advertise their positions), when they hire, and how our placement rate in a given month compares to past years. Trends can be spotted using this information. I am also able to produce a Destination List each spring which allows students to know where their classmates (who have consented to be of the list) will be working or studying after graduation.

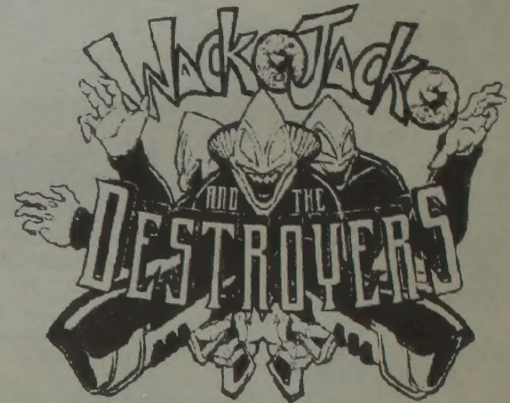
Many of you have heard that articling hiring is done in the summer between second and third year law. This statement is partly true, as large firms and

some smaller ones hire their articling students during this period. However, one of the things that historical survey data shows us is that 55 - 65% of our students tend to enter third year with their articles in place. The balance of hiring is done during and within about eight months following third year. The types of employers that hire then include smaller to mid-sized firms, alternate career employers, and some larger firms who wish to add to their compliment of previously hired students. Not all of these employers advertise their positions. Students who are interested in targeting this market are invited to speak to me for further information and suggestions.

Our Class of 1998 achieved at least a 96% placement rate by early 1999. Our Class of 1999 achieved a placement rate of 90% by early Sep-

tember 1999 and I expect this rate to reach the mid-90's over the next few months. I have recently surveyed the members of our current third year class, the Class of 2000. Although as of September 28, 1999 I had not yet heard from 33% of the class members, 54% have confirmed that they have obtained articles or finalized other satisfactory plans for 1999-2000 and 14% have advised that they are still looking. Third year students who have not yet filled out a purple Destination Questionnaire are urged to do so in order for that unknown category to be reduced and the statistics rendered more meaningful. The forms are available in my office (Room 474).

Law Games 2000 Presents



Friday Oct 15 at
Elephant & Castle on Whyte

Tickets \$5.00 includes
admission and 1 drink.

Tickets on sale at the
couches the week prior or
from any Law Games organizers.

Student Legal Services (SLS)

By John Piasta (3L)

Hi everybody. Well, it is time for another year at SLS and I just want to take this opportunity on behalf of all of us at SLS to welcome everyone back. I also want to recognize all of the staff that put in tireless hours this summer to keep SLS up and running. Everyone did a great job and we had a lot of great times. Who can forget me saving Mike's life at Slave Lake, or me dominating at, and continually pelting Sarah in, Paint Ball War 1999. We had a really good crew this summer and it was indeed a pleasure to work together.

The SLS Wine & Cheese this year was a big success. I hope that all of the first years and returning students had a chance to partake in a beverage or two. By the looks of our bill for that evening, it seems that they did. Thanks must also go out to all of the law firms and individuals that donated the resources for us to put the event on. We literally couldn't have put it on without their support.

All of the shifts are up and running now and SLS is very appreciative of those who have signed up this year and committed their time to the worthwhile cause that SLS promotes. Anyone still interested is more than welcome to sign up for shifts as the year goes on. This includes womens' shelters, Edmonton Institution shifts, as well as regular Criminal, Civil/Family, and Legal Education/Reform shifts. If you want to do more than one of each, you are more than welcome to. Speaking of signing up, there is a DYOD (Do Your Own Divorce) clinic on October 19 & 26 so get on board as soon as possible. Remember also that SLS elections are coming up at the end of this month so make sure you get out to vote for the 2000 Management Committee.

If anyone wants to ask any questions or find out more about SLS feel free to accost anyone on the Management Committee in the hall or give us a call at the office at 492-2226. For those of you that don't know us yet, here is a list of who's who on the Management Committee:

John Piasta - Executive Coordinator
Bela Berze - Family Law Coordinator
Erin McCoy - EMH Criminal Coordinator

Sarah Heynen - Legal Education/Reform Coordinator
Desmond Kary - Civil Law Coordinator
Hayden Ebbem - Corona Criminal Coordinator

That is all for now. I hope that all of our volunteers will have a good experience at SLS, and that everyone has a great year. As a parting thought, the SLS FAB this year will again be the last one of the year, so start preparing yourselves now - I know I am.

Please note the following new outreach programs offered by the SLS Legal Education and Reform Project:

- **DECSA: 11713 - 82 Street: Fridays, 10:30am to 12:30pm**
SLS volunteers will work in conjunction with the Distinctive Employment Counselling Services of Alberta (DECSA) to assist multiple high-barriered individuals who are employment disadvantaged and in need of legal assistance. Some of the barriers facing these individuals include mental and physical illness, visual or hearing impairment, psychological illness, addictions, domestic abuse and limited education. On a bi-weekly basis, SLS volunteers will meet with participants in the program who will have been referred by their counsellors to meet with SLS members. The fourth Friday of every month will be devoted to a topical information seminar presented to participants.
- **Changing Together: 10010 - 107A Avenue: New to the Legal Ed Project Seminar Program**
Dates will vary but lectures run 12:00pm to 1:30pm. Changing Together is a resource centre for immigrant women. The centre provides ESL classes, prevention of family violence workshops, support groups, information and referrals, outreach workshops on topics of interest to immigrant women, and other services. SLS volunteers will attend on a bi-weekly basis to provide information seminars on legal topics of interest to persons new to Canada. Interested 2nd and 3rd year students are welcome to sign up.
- **The Legal Reform Project: not new but seeking interested 2nd and 3rd students to sign up.**
The Legal Reform Project works to identify ways in which the law affects members of the low income and inner-city communities differently than other people, and to advocate for change in the law. In the past, Legal Reform has worked on such topics as prostitution laws, the federal transfer payment structures, aboriginal issues, and child welfare. As Legal Reform is a very flexible project, volunteers are welcome to bring other issues that they would like to pursue to the Project.

Interested students please contact Sarah Heynen, Legal Ed/Reform Coordinator.

STUDENT GROUPS

October 1999

The Law Students Newspaper

Canadian Bar Association News

By Joe Sumiya (3L)

Hello and welcome back law students. I hope you all had a great summer. I'm sure you are all eager and ready to begin your studies and have all your books and pens at the ready. Yes, I know some of you are thinking what I can do with my books and pens, but let's try to keep things civil, at least for the first month.

The CBA is the professional organization representing the interests of the legal profession. Over 37,000 Canadian lawyers are members. The CBA is a vast network and resource for lawyers and law students. We offer many benefits for law students, including:

The Mentor Program:

This popular program

lawyers practicing in an area of your interest. This way you can benefit from their experience and knowledge of the legal world. Many students have reported very positive experiences from this program.

Please be sure to contact your mentor as soon as possible if you are participating. There is no need to be intimidated, they want to help and they have volunteered.

A "Meet Your Mentor" Reception is being planned which will allow you a chance to break the ice. Both you and your mentor will be able to meet each other, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks, so please attend if you can.

Access to CBA Office Meetings:

Law students have the privilege of attending the other section meetings downtown without having to pay the section fees that the lawyers pay. The meetings give you a chance to meet several practicing attorneys in a variety of fields and listen in on a talk about a certain area of law. The meetings are very interesting and informative, and they cover about 30 different areas of law, any of which you can attend. Some of the topics of the various meetings include; business, criminal, family, environmental, aboriginal, civil rights, insurance, landlord/tenant, and many others. An excellent lunch is also provided.

*Please contact the CBA office at (780) 428-1230 by noon

the previous day if you are planning to attend a meeting.*

We are also planning meetings on campus, with lunch included. The details will be announced and posted on the CBA board throughout the year.

Other Benefits to Students Include:

- Tour of the Morgue
- Police Ride-Alongs
- Tour of the Federal Women's Prison
- Discounts on Insurance and other services.
- CBA Publications

If you have already joined, great, and welcome aboard (or

back). If you wish to join, applications are available at the CBA Board (the Gavel lounge corridor wall), or on the CBA office door (Room 100F, by the SLS board). Applications can be slipped under our office door or handed to one of our attractive and charming executives.

Yoshio (Joe) Sumiya, Chair, 3L (780) 917-3356
Pamela Vidal, Vice Chair, 2L
Amanda Viner, Program Coordinator, 2L
Alicia McTavish, Secretary/Treasurer, 2L
Sherina Dhala, Social Convenor, 2L
Jeff Landmann, Member at Large, 2L

Continued page 10...

Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity

By Patricia Neyra (2L)

Phi Delta Phi was incorporated in 1896 in the State of Michigan by like-minded law students, their goals including a desire to "promote a higher standard of professional ethics and culture in this and other law schools and in the profession at large". This fellowship is preserved in Law Schools and among lawyers (and judges) throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. Currently the membership is approximately 144,000 including law students and alumni. The Head Office of Phi Delta Phi is in Washington, DC. Conventions are held every other year, with delegates from each Law School electing the new Council of 5 members, conducting and voting on any business, and approving the budget for the next two years. The areas in the US, Canada and Mexico are divided into Provinces (there are presently 31), and in alternate years, meetings are held in each Province with delegates from each of the Law Schools in that area attending. Our delegate to the Convention held in Philadelphia August 11-15, 1999 was Patricia Neyra.

The Fraternity guarantees friendships that last a lifetime, and networking amongst members to assist students in Law School and after graduation. There are currently 80 alumni in Northern Alberta, some of whom are Madam Justice Ellen Picard, Madam Justice Anne Russell, the Honourable William Stevenson, Q.C., Professors Hopp, Percy and Gall, and Dr. Khetarpal. Other alumni include the Honourable Madame Justice L'Heureux Dube, Anne McLellan and Doug Roche.

The Charter for the Uni-

versity of Alberta Chapter, known as the Bowker Inn, was granted in 1985. To be eligible for membership in Phi Delta Phi, a law student must be of good moral character and in good academic standing. The present Executive includes Jonathan Coombs (Magister), Kyle Parker (Vice Magister), Marti Katerberg (Exchequer), Patricia Neyra (Clerk), and Cindy Turner (Historian).

Some of the activities planned for this year include a FAB (Sept. 24, 1999), possibly a Workday with Habitats for Humanity, Initiation in October (of 2nd and 3rd year students and special honorary initiates), and an Initiation in March of 2000 of 1st year students. These initiations are held at the Court House with 5 benchers presiding and conducting the ceremony. We will be selling Candy-grams for Christmas and Valentine's Day. In Ethics Month (February 2000), we will have a special panel of guest lawyers (alumni of the Fraternity) speaking on ethics and professionalism. As well,

We hope to have speakers at other times. We have also been asked to host the Calgary Inn of the Law Faculty, University of Calgary, at the Law Show in January, and have been invited to

their Law Show in February.

Notices of upcoming events will be posted on the Phi Delta Phi Bulletin Board and around the building. Our office is Room 100C. If you have any

questions or are interested in finding out more about Phi Delta Phi, please contact one of the Officers.

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STUDENT GROUPS

The Law Students Newspaper

October 1999

LSA - Welcome

by Dave Benjestorf, LSA President (3L)

Hello, and welcome back. I trust that everyone had a happy and refreshing summer. On behalf of the 1999/2000 Law Student's Association (LSA), I would like to welcome all those new and familiar faces to another year at Alberta Law. Much has happened over the summer so I thought a brief update might be in order.

After reviewing last year's orientation survey, the LSA decided to revamp orientation this year. Changes included: an ice breaker near the city limits, family BBQ, a student group introductions before the info. fair, and we provided a new optional case brief session.

The Gavel security system has been upgraded over the summer to include automatic locking on the remaining three doors. This was done to prevent others from manually unlocking the doors after they have been locked for the night. It is important to us that law students feel comfortable and safe in their own lounge and to discourage items from walking away.

After the death of the 1960's model LSA fridge early last year, we have purchased a new 19 cubic foot refrigerator for the exterior office area. Student

groups are welcome to use the fridge for any FABS, socials or penicillin experiments.

In an effort to provide improved and accurate academic support, the LSA has decided to significantly increase the price paid for CANS/CODS as a way of attracting higher caliber resources. As a result, the LSA purchased 20 brand new CANS/CODS this summer. We will strive to continually keep our CANS/CODS of the highest quality.

As one of the so-called "fringe" faculties, law students tend to receive a bit of an isolationist or elitist type label, both on campus and in the community. Effective this fall, the LSA has decided to take a more community-based approach. We want to let others know that we are not only regular students, but students that want to give back to the community. Thus in addition to current organizations such as Student Legal Services and Law Show, the LSA will be supporting other programs such as Mustard Seed and the Edmonton Food Bank. In addition, I recently attended the first Council of Faculty Associations (COFA) meeting. COFA is a monthly meeting between the Presidents

of each faculty and the Students Union executive. The first meeting involved fundraising ideas, the Whyte Avenue liquor debate, faculty perceptions/images, inter-faculty relationships, and international student concerns. This is an ideal way to set aside faculty barriers and misconceptions. As a result, we will periodically invite other

6 PM to 9 PM. Quicklaw is also available in the Cameron Library.

Secondly, four workstations have been put in the Gavel. These machines are intended for Netscape, Winqvt, FTP and email applications only. It is important to make sure that the Gavel is secured after hours as there has been a problem with electronics theft on campus. These machines are paid for by law stu-

lab in the former LSA storage room. Two high performance Hewlett Packard machines were purchased, complete with printers and a high-end scanner. These are stand alone machines thus not intended for email or the Internet use at this point. Rather, these machines are for papers or projects of law students and law organizations. In addition, two older machines were added for word processing-type functions. Our goal is to provide 24 hour access to this room by signing out keys to those who require late night or weekend access.

Finally, the LSA has purchased a high capacity laser fax machine available to all LSA members. This service is run on a cost recovery basis with specific pricing posted on the LSA board or in the office (i.e., \$0.25/page for local use versus \$0.50-\$1.75/page at various competitors). This machine is available during regular LSA office hours or whenever you can track one of us down. Our fax number is (780) 492-6770.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Labatts Breweries for their generous support. Labatts has been a long time supporter of our faculty so please help to show your appreciation by supporting their products.

If you have any questions, ideas or concerns, please feel free to approach any LSA executive member. For your convenience, we have posted each person's specific office hours on the office door. Have a great year!

Proposed LSA Budget: 1999-2000 (Summer)

By Sandro Marrocco, LSA VP Finance (2L)

Revenues	Budget	Conservative
LSA memberships	\$ 20,000	\$ 17,000
CANS	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,000
Video Games	\$ 500	\$ 250
Donations	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Interest	\$ 35	\$ 35
Total	\$ 34,535	\$ 30,285
Expenses		
Yearbook	\$ 8,500	\$ 9,000
Sports	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,750
Office Admin	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,500
Social	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,500
Professional fees	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,500
Miscellaneous	\$ 250	\$ 500
Computers	\$ 4,173.39	\$ 4,173.39
Fax machine	\$ 791.78	\$ 791.78
Security System	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000
Service Charges	\$ 100	\$ 200
Total	\$ 32,015	\$ 34,915
Gain (Loss)	\$ 2,520	\$ (4,630)
Add in turnover from 98/99	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Total	\$ 6,520	\$ (630)

Please make note that this is a proposed budget from summer, 1999 and is based on costs from 1998-1999. Computers and fax machine prices are as stated here.

Thank you,
Sandro R. Marrocco



PHOTO CREDIT: SUSAN POIZ

"Inga is a huge LSA fan!"

faculties to our functions while we will be invited to other faculties. If you notice another group at one of our events, please make an effort to make them feel welcome.

In speaking with many students last year, the LSA discovered that the lack of access to technology regularly proved highly frustrating to most students. As a result, we have done our best to alleviate this concern in several ways.

First, the law library has agreed to extensive 'law students only' times in the main computer lab (W104). These times are: Monday to Friday- 12 noon to 2 PM, Tuesday/Thursday - 6 PM to close. In addition, room 237 is booked for laptop use: Monday/Wednesday/Friday - 3 PM to 6 PM, Tuesday/Thursday -

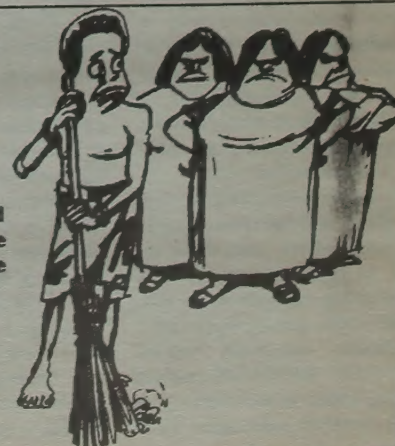
dents and therefore only available to law students. If non-law students become uncooperative, as has happened in the past, the faculty or campus security may be called for assistance.

Thirdly, the LSA has established a new mini computer

PHOTOS NEEDED!

DO YOU HAVE PHOTOS OF LAW EVENTS? IF YES, PLEASE LET THE CANNONS KNOW. WE WOULD LIKE TO PUBLISH THEM IN UPCOMING ISSUES.

A man married and living on the Marianne Islands years ago had better not refuse to cook for the family or clean house when instructed to do so by his spouse. The law allowed the fellow's wife and her female friends to destroy his clothing and other personal property. Then, the hapless guy could be killed by the women, if his wife decided to do this. The women involved in the man's murder were not punished for their deed.



OPINIONS, EDITORIALS

October 1999

The Law Students Newspaper

Ain't Misbehavin': The Responsibility that Comes with Being in Law

By Christine Mazur (3L)

Greetings fellow law students. How's it feel to be back? Seems like you never left? Yep. Just you wait, you first years, your little faces all bright and eager to get going into Law School. The work's going to hit you soon enough, once the fun, games and hangovers of September and welcoming wine and cheeses are over. Then you'll be wondering, "Why? Why did I choose law? End it now, please! I'll never understand perpetuities!"

Well, even I, the most reluctant of law students can think of many good reasons for why you would want to be a lawyer. Lawyers know the laws of our country and province and assist in making life easier for the many people who use their services. Lawyers can save careers, lives, families, businesses, habitats, and are spokespersons for those who don't have a voice or who don't have the ability for whatever reason to speak up for their rights.

Lawyers can be powerful and influential people, but one must bear in mind that, like Anakin Skywalker, they choose to use their power for the dark side of the Force. This is true!

Look at Alan Eagleson! Look at Jerry Springer! Tell me he's not pure evil - corrupting the minds of small children and undergrads everywhere.

Seriously, today's law students, i.e. YOU people, have the responsibility of carrying on this centuries-old tradition of lawyers. You will be the caretakers of people's lives and advocates for justice and fairness in human conflicts from the petty disputes in small claims court to the most heinous murder trials.

Many personages of legendary status have gone before us in our chosen profession: Geoffrey Chaucer, St. Thomas More, Lord Denning, Louise Arbour, Anne McLellan, John Grisham... So we have a lot to be proud of, especially at the U of A where our faculty consists of some of Canada's finest legal academics and practitioners.

I am emphasizing the dignity and prestige of the legal profession here, because I want to drive home a point to you, my fellow students with whom I have studied and partied. Now that we have moved beyond our wet-behind the ears period of high school and undergrad, it is time

for us to assume the roles of responsible citizens. As future lawyers, we must conduct ourselves in a manner becoming of our profession. We must demonstrate to the community that surrounds us that we are reliable and respectable individuals that our clients can trust.

Enjoy life to its fullest, but bear in mind the responsibilities we now have as law students. In the social activities we attend with our classmates, we should especially take care to respect the property, lives, and livelihoods of other members of the community. I say this, because I am ashamed to say that law students are capable of making, and have in the past made a name for themselves - a none too popular name - among various venues of social amusement in the community.

That is all I will say on this matter, unless circumstances



cause me to comment on law student behaviour again - and I am confident it won't. If it does, you will certainly be hearing from me in not so discreet terms next time.

I hope you all have a good year and that law students will be able to show the community what great contributions we can make to it and what truly fine people we can be.

Do Law Students Really Have a Voice?

By Dion Legge (3L)

Throughout the entirety of my post-secondary education I have always been under the impression that students who are willing, can and do have a voice with respect to matters that affect the student body and the administration of the faculty. Well, what I have recently discovered has forced me to step back and seriously evaluate that position.

The Law Faculty Council (LFC), the body responsible for the administration of this Faculty, has given me the impression that it does not desire the input of students. Specifically, I refer to two meetings held in May 1999. There was no student representation at those meetings; in fact, I would go so far as to say that the student members were not notified of the meetings.

None of the LFC student reps that I spoke to (from the current year and last year) could answer in the affirmative when asked if they had received written notice of the meetings. The LFC regulations specifically require that ALL MEMBERS receive written notice of the meetings at least one week prior to the meet-

ings. Why was this policy not followed? According to the 4th floor, students are notified through postings under glass and that is deemed to be notice in writing for the purposes of the policy. That begs the question as to how are students expected to read notices when they are not normally on campus throughout the summer. It also makes one question whether or not there is a better way of communicating the information to the students.

At the first meeting (an ordinary business meeting on May 4th), the LFC began the process of adopting the recommendations of the Curriculum Committee (to reform the first year curriculum). Due to a lack of time, the matter was tabled. The second meeting on May 28th, the annual marks meeting (which is held every year at this time), provided an opportunity to dispose of the matter.

The matter was, however, tabled until the October meeting since some of the Faculty felt it was inappropriate to discuss the matter without students being present. Interestingly enough, it

appears that had the matter not been tabled, the subject matter would have once again been discussed in the absence of the student members.

In my opinion, this is not the intention of having student representatives on the LFC. Student input is valuable and not only do students have a right to attend the meetings, but I think the Faculty has an obligation to fully inform them of the meetings.

This is not to say that the students would have attended the meeting, but at least it would have given them an opportunity to decide for themselves whether or not they could attend.

The students that we have elected to the various committees have made a conscious decision to get involved in the internal operation of the Faculty, and they should not be denied that opportunity. Of course, students have a responsibility to attend the meetings and make a significant contribution, but this requires that the Faculty take the time to adequately notify them of the meetings.

It is my understanding that some committees actually phone the student members to tell them of meetings, while others place notices under glass specifically directed to the particular student representatives.

Please do not misinterpret this article. It is not my intention to discredit the work that the LFC is trying to accomplish.

After reading the Report of the Curriculum Committee, I can appreciate the amount of work and dedication that has gone into the project and the importance of finalizing the changes so the committee can move to the next phase of its mandate.

There is also the added necessity of dealing with Faculty business in a timely and orderly manner. I am also not purporting that we slavishly follow every single policy and procedure that is set forth to guide our existence. Sometimes we get so caught up in the procedure that we lose sight of our ultimate goal.

The point I am making is simple. Members of this Faculty should respect the fact that stu-

dents play an integral role in the Faculty and their participation should not be discounted or discarded. The fact that it was questionable whether or not the students received notice means that a new method of communication is necessary when it comes to LFC (and maybe other internal committee) meetings.

I think that we can do better than a notice under glass. In fact, I know we can.

For those of you who are interested, the LFC usually meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 12:15 PM and their agenda is posted under glass one week prior to the meeting. These meetings are open to anyone who is interested in attending. The first meeting of the year is going to be held on October 12th and is open to any interested student to attend. It is worth noting that the Faculty has decided to hold the meeting later than normal in order that the first year reps be elected and able to attend.

FEATURES

The Law Students Newspaper

October 1999

Cheating - Don't Do It! Don't Even Think About It!

By Andrew Bachelder (3L)

At the start of each term at the beginning of almost every class, students sit through the same monotonous lecture about cheating and plagiarism. It may be tempting to tune out the droning voice of the professor at the front and ponder what you will be doing on the weekend, but that could be the first step to making a very grievous error. There is a reason the professors spend class time telling us about the consequences of cheating, and that is because those consequences are severe.

The University's Code of Student Behaviour defines cheating as cheating during an exam and plagiarism. Examination cheating is obtaining, attempting to obtain or transferring information from an unauthorized source during an exam. Fortunately, cheating during an exam is extremely rare at the Law Faculty.

"In 26 years here I haven't had one case of cheating that I've been aware of in my classes," said Law School Dean, Lewis Klar. "In six years as Associate Dean and as Dean there have only been 6 cases, and all cases of reported cheating would come to my attention."

Klar says that there are approximately 4,000 exams and papers a year that are written. That adds up to over 24,000 over six years with only 6 cases of reported cheating. "This is an unbelievably small percentage," Klar said. (You can do the math if you like)

"We take it very seriously and we try to instill that in the students," said Klar. "Every complaint is proceeded with and suspensions are the norm."

The fact that most stu-

dents here will go on to be practicing lawyers is one reason, Klar says the University's policy regarding cheating is so strongly emphasized. As lawyers, we will have the burden of the public trust to live up to. "If law students are being dishonest then they should basically be out of the law school," Klar said.

Plagiarism is the other half of the University's cheating policy. The Code of Student Behaviour defines plagiarism as the submission of "words, ideas, images or data of another person as the student's own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, research project or assignment in a course or program of study."

There are no statistics available on cases of plagiarism because professors deal with most of the situations themselves. One professor, who asked not to be named, said that each term there are at least two students in the courses that he/she teaches that get into trouble with plagiarism. Almost all of these problems arise from sloppiness, laziness and ignorance rather than a deliberate attempt to plagiarize. The professor usually points out the problem and gives the students an opportunity to correct the mistakes, or assigns a failing grade.

Professor Cathy Bell says that students have to take the responsibility of making sure they are properly quoting their sources. "My advice is if you are in a paper class and your professor does not explain the rules on plagiarism or draw your attention to the rules attached to a course outline ask about it," Professor Bell says. "Students often have different understandings of what

plagiarism means. Sometimes people think they only have to give a citation if they are giving a direct quote or they think that they can rework a paper from another class and submit it. Neither is correct. Using other people's ideas without citing sources and submitting a rework of a paper without approval from your professor are both forms of plagiar-

ism."

Other professors contacted for this article agreed with Professor Bell's advice, and they emphasized the need for a student to ask the professors if he or she is in doubt as to the proper approach in quoting someone else's work.

It seems like a simple thing to avoid plagiarism, but the potential for difficulties is tre-

mendous. One professor said that knowing how to properly credit other people's work is a problem for all academics - students and professors alike. A few simple questions to a professor to clarify what is plagiarism and what is not could prevent serious upheaval in your life.



Law School From A First Year's Perspective

By Deborah M.I. Szatylo (1L)

As first year students we were thrilled and scared about what laid ahead. I've found something akin to highschool. Thankfully our "hazing" involved being kidnapped to Fred's in Leduc and some of the best hospitality to be found anywhere. Free pizza and beer everywhere we go! Second and third year students are full of wisdom and offer useful tidbits of info. like: participate, have fun, and **HOGG IS GOD**. Is a hog our mascot? Speaking of participating, aside from the wine and cheese socials, two events in particular stand out as absolute musts for the years to follow. "Law's a Beach" at Mink Lake and the "El Hacks" golf tournament at River Ridge are indicative of an obvious L.S.A. tradition of combining good organization and loads of fun. So far Law School's been great. I passed the L.S.A.T. to get in but broke the H.U.B. on my C.B.A., no that's C.A.B., enroute to get a S.U.B. It had a R.A.T.T. in it so I put it in the C.A.N.'s but realized I should have S.U.ed. I then took the L.R.T. to see the C.F.L., or was that the C.L.F., and made it back to go to F.A.B.S. when I found myself collapsing on the COUCHES upstairs from the GAVEL. Whew..., what a day!

Puppy Column

Welcome to Chaos

By Susan Polz (1L)

Well my friends, school is in full swing and the roller-coaster ride, a.k.a. Law School, has begun. As First-Years, we are constantly reminded by professors, advisors and older students that the year will be trying and full of challenges, that many of us may/will want to drop out, that our grade point averages will go down...great, why did I want to be here again? However, despite all the hard work ahead, I think it important to remind you all that this year could be one of the best that we've ever had.

In true David Letterman form, I've decided to share the TOP TEN memories from my first weeks with all of you in Law. Some of the memories you



may have in common with me, others you may not, but hopefully they are all somewhat entertaining. Anyway, here goes...(drum-roll please)

Top Ten Memories of First Year, according to one First Year (spiffy name, eh?)

10. Our mystery voyage out to Fred's Place- particular highlights of the evening include: making great

friends, watching drinks light on fire, and dancing on speaker boxes (in that order).

9. The valiant effort to remember everyone's names or, to at least associate something with someone's face (i.e. "Hey, I remember you, you were the one that was dancing on the table...").

8. A little education is a dangerous thing. It's becoming a common

occurrence to hear First Years sitting in The Gavel and discussing who can and cannot be sued, thanks to our new-found knowledge. (eg "Can I sue someone for battery if he/she smacks me with a terrible whiff of halitosis?" "I wonder if I can sue my ex- girlfriend/ex-boyfriend for the money she/he owes me?"

7. Books that cost more by themselves than my entire booklist for my First-Year of Undergrad.

6. Standing in lines at the Distribution Centre, at the Couches, at the Bookstore, in the beer line, to go to the washroom... face it, Law is about doing lines. (yes, I'm attempting humour here)

5. Two Words... Wine & Cheeses.

4. SLS- Not only do you feel great about providing an important service to the

FEATURES

October 1999

The Law Students Newspaper

Legal Beagle Column Can You Feel the Pressure?

By Dennis Schmidt (2L)

Hello everybody!

Welcome to the second year of law school and the big grind. No doubt, many of us will have spent the summer relaxing our brains in preparation for the pressure cooker that we all heard about and (maybe?) feared.

By the time this article is in your hands the first month of school will be history and hopefully many of you will have kept up with the enormous amount of reading that has been thrust upon us. Is it just me or does there seem to be significantly more reading than we had in first year? Nonetheless, the myth that we will work our butts off this year has already turned out to be a reality. With most of us already

trudging our way through the behemoth that is Administrative Law and many of us lugging around gigantic case books in either Family Law, Trusts, or Wills, the task of filling our brains with all this information by the time the December exams role around is a frightening feat. No doubt we have our work cut out for us.

If that wasn't enough, come second semester we have the luxury of convincing at least one of many law firms to hire us once this whole affair is finished. Many hours and days spent perfecting our resumes, cover letters, and postal skills all in the hope of getting a job when we leave here. We must all keep it in perspective, however.

Puppy Column

Puppy Continued from page 9

community at large, but you have a good time with it as well.

3. The Law Show. Dancing, singing, acting, it is fun preparing and it will be fun to be a part of the event itself. Rumour has it that this is also an opportunity to see some of our Profs let loose; be it dancing up a storm or dressed in drag, after Law Show, we may have seen sides of some Profs that we didn't know existed.

2. El Hacks: The golf was enjoyable but so were the costumes. Riding around in our golf-cart, our team passed hairy-legged men in negligees, a Kiss Revival,

the Little Rascals, and other great costumes that provided candy for the eye. Smartly dressed in the leading fashions in PJs, our team found the laughs were in abundance but our golf-balls weren't. All I can say is, I can't wait for next year's tourney you El Hacks Wackos. I hope to see you then.

1. And my number one memory from First Year so far? The people, no doubt. I know, it sounds cheesy but, I can't believe how friendly everyone is here! I hope this continues throughout our years in Law.

I wish you all much success and lots of fun this year.



Countless other did it before us and lived to tell about it.

In reality we have nothing to worry about (only our sanity). I'm sure we will all look back on it in third year when we all have an article and laugh (or cry). So, finishing this short, but sweet article, I wish you all good luck and hopefully we'll all make it out together.

CBA

CBA Continued from page 6

Wine and Cheese Reception:

On Sept. 15, the CBA held its first U of A welcome reception. It was a great success. Based on food and drink consumption we estimate that it was attended by the entire population of Edmonton (just kidding, actually about several dozen students). We on the CBA executive would like to express our sincere thanks to the CBA head office for setting up this event, and in particular, thanks to Heather Walsh for her efforts. Our thanks also to Mr. Atymichuk and Ms. Birkett for attending.

Eagle Column The Third Year Experience

By Rosie Zannin (3L)



It was with a great deal of trepidation that I agreed to write this column. After all, who was I to think that my feelings with respect to third year were even remotely similar to yours. But, after having spoken to a number of people I realized that ours weren't so dissimilar and decided to take the plunge. I hope I can accurately encapsulate some of our sentiments in a few short words.

I also wish to digress a little in this column. I want to reminisce about our first year in Law School and how we really owe our sense of camaraderie, our willingness to share ideas (and materials) and our notions of "the balanced life" to the third year class of 1997/98.

I think most of us now entering third year have truly mixed emotions about the whole thing. On the one hand, there is an eagerness to move on to the next stage of our lives, to finally fulfill our parents' fondest dream—that of us being gainfully employed and being out of their hair. But seriously, there is also a sense of extreme terror with respect to becoming an articling student. I can honestly say that I know a little about some things (I think) and not nearly enough about everything else. There is something decidedly safe about Law School and knowing that the "information" you provide to SLS principals is suit-proof.

One of the saddest aspects of third year is dealing with the reality of saying goodbye (even temporarily) to some of your closest friends. Face it, could anybody else on the planet relate to your own private struggle with perpetuities? Re-

ally it is only this neurotic species which submits itself to that kind of torture and so must turn to itself for comfort. Saying goodbye, now that might be the subject matter of a later column.

Now that I've discussed the "third year perspective" I would like to begin the trip down memory lane. For those of you in first and second year, read and learn! I remember coming to Law School two years ago truly scared of what was to come. Thank God, for that third year class! Right away they took the lot of us under their wing and really showed us what it meant to lead a balanced life. That class attended EVERY social function, including grad 1999's fundraiser, and partied with gusto. When we asked whether Law School ought to be this much fun, and if we should be studying right now, they laughed and said, "Only the second years study in September. You don't want to be geeks like them." So out we went all the time, the Billiard Club, FABS, Law's a Beach, El Hacks and they were always there too. They were also the best day leaders we'd ever had. Most of them would come to court with us and "hold our hands" while we stood before judges who possessed a certain penchant for yelling at everybody! They showed us how to "study smart" so we wouldn't need to spend countless hours in the library slogging through useless material. They taught us the importance of CANS by example—stampeding over keen second year students in pursuit of their learning tool of choice. Ah, those were the days.

Now I am not suggesting to any of you first or second year students that you need not study, of course you do. But the best piece of advice they gave us was that landing an article isn't only contingent upon getting good grades. It is also about being a well-rounded individual. Now here is my two-cents on this matter. For most of us, Law School is the last stop on the education train. Sure some of you will go on to obtain Masters Degrees or to chase some other academic pursuit, but by and large, the majority of us will be working with the very people who sit right beside us. Law School affords you the opportunity to make some of the best friends you'll ever have in your life. Take advantage while you can because these last two years have flown by like lightning and our graduation is only but a few months and exams away.

Rockwood Inmates Present Victim Awareness Play

Review by Christine Mazur (3L)
"Connections"

The Citadel, MacLab Theatre
Friday, Sept 24 5:30pm

Members of the John Howard Society of Manitoba were in Edmonton on Sept. 24 to present "Connections," a Victim Awareness play written by Kathleen Helgason and directed by Andrea Gill. The production, on tour in September, is sponsored by Correctional Services of Canada and the Solicitor General of Canada Secretariat. Most of the performers are inmates of Rockwood Institution, the minimum security prison in Manitoba just outside Winnipeg. Some are 'lifers,' some are on parole, and some are survivors of victims.

The set is simple, the main part consisting of an inmate's bed and toilet. The main character is "Randy" who sits alone in his prison cell sharing with the audience the story of his life and the circumstances that led to his imprisonment. He reflects much on the few joys and many sorrows of his home life and the great regret he feels for the act of manslaughter he committed during a robbery.

Randy's narrative is given life by other actors coming on to act out little vignettes of the downward spiral of his life. From a childhood with an abusive father, he descends into alcoholism, and finally, under the influence of a con-friend he takes part in a robbery that ends in

Randy killing his second victim.

Randy's actions cause two people to become his victims and in his prison cell he struggles with guilt and learns to accept responsibility for what he has done through reflection on Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment*, one of the many books he has been reading during his years in prison. As part of his healing process, his victim awareness counselor arranges a meeting between him and the murdered man's wife Carol.

In the final scene, Carol expresses to Randy her anger and frustration at the fact that her husband, a good husband and father is dead but Randy is still alive. All he can do is hang his head and say he is sorry, but even

that, says his counselor, is an important start on the road to healing "She needed to hear you say that," she tells him.

Bearing in mind that these performers are not trained actors, the performance they delivered was still very professionally done, and the emotions of the characters came across very effectively. The actors projected a sense of hope into their performances that carried across to the audience, which in turn showed its appreciation with a standing ovation at the end.

Let's Get This Thing Going: Rugby Club

By Kevin Brosseau (2L)

The U of A Law Golden Bearristers Rugby Club has commenced what will hopefully prove to be its most successful season yet with an energetic and enthusiastic group of both rookies and veterans. The Club was conceived in 1994 by a steadfast group of Law Students who saw a gap in the recreational opportunities available to students of the Law Faculty. Only seven die-hards showed up for that first meeting. Since those fledgling days the Club has grown to a membership of over 30 players almost half being First Year Students.

This year, the Club began practicing immediately and with the help of four coaches from the Norwester Rugby Association headed by 1999 Law graduate Kat Todd. Though the 1999 Bearristers have a large proportion of inexperienced players, the team has been steadily improving its quality of play. Lyle "Ooo Becker" Brookes (3L) has also been skillfully guiding the backs in the fine art of ball handling and tackling. The first game of the season was held Sunday, September 26 against a team comprised of first thru fourth divisions of the Norwester Rugby Club.

Initially, the Golden Bearrister coaching staff was somewhat concerned for the team due to the devastating injuries that the club has suffered. Injured and not available to play this game were starting Props Dave "Montana Cougar" Benjestorf (3L), Kevin "Rusty" Brosseau (2L), and Gord "I Love Vicki" Sterchi (2L), as well as outside back Chris "The Duke"

Wiebe(2L). Other notable injuries included Ryan "Ron Jeremy" Smith (3L) and Cameron "where's my Daytimer" Pham (1L). The result of all these injuries was that several rookies were called on to step up their level of play and step up they did.

The game began with Andrew "Fred Astaire" Kay (2L), and Steve "Fireplug" Kresak(1L) seeing their first extended action as Props. Pat "the Gorilla" Heinzen (3L) started at Hooker, the most thankless position in the game, and guided the pack to an impressive showing in the scrums keeping pace with the far more experienced opposition.

For the first two quarters the Bearristers kept the Norwesters off the scoreboard, a significant feat in itself since many of the opposing team had a large amount of high-level rugby experience. Of note was the fearless tackling by several of the backs including Jason "Help me Tanis" Wilkins (2L), and rookie Chris "Hey where's the puck" Croteau (2L). Nick "Crazy Legs" Salaysay (1L) showed incredible courage and remained in the game after taking a punishing hit from a Norwester forward about 3 times his size! Also of note was Jimmy "the Macedonian Ma-rauder" Dimovski (3L).

The second half saw a continuation of the Bearrister perseverance and determination. The Norwesters did, however, manage to get on the scoreboard but only after great defense was played by fullback Shane "the Lover" King (2L) and Rob "I look so cute in a dress" Fenrich (2L). Other game notables were Steve "I actually can play this

game" Marcellus (1L) and Anthony "Our token Francophone" Rasoulis(1L) and continual strong running by winger Teji "I'm way too sexy" Sandhar (1L). Without their fearless play the game would have surely ended up being a lopsided affair. The final score was Norwesters 17, Golden Bearristers 0. A tough loss but again a gallant effort displayed by all players.

The next game will be the 1999 ALUMNI-FEST held at the Norwester Field Saturday, October 2nd at 2:00 pm. The field is located behind the Wal-Mart store on 23rd Avenue east of 99th Street in south Edmonton. The Bearristers are gearing up for what will surely prove to be the toughest game of the season due to returning past notables like Daron "Oh Ricky you're so fine you blow my mind" Naffin and Tarquin "the original Duke of Puke" Caraher. All rugby fans past and present are urged to come out to the game and support their favorite team. The game will be followed by what will undoubtedly prove to be the best party of the year at the Urban Lounge on 105th and Whyte Ave. See any player for tickets to the last big event before Halloween-you don't want to miss it!! [Results of Oct 2nd game to follow in next issue.]



Sunny Smiles at El Hacko

LSA Sports Update

By Kate Clayton (2L)

Hello sports fans! Welcome back to another fun-filled season of L.S.A. Intramural events. With the rushed start of the season this year, we were unfortunately unable to put together teams in time for Co-Rec Slo-Pitch or Flag Football, Men's Flag Football and Women's Outdoor Soccer even though there was faculty interest.

Despite our slow start, men's Outdoor Soccer is already in full swing. Once again the faculty is fielding a very competitive team, currently sitting at 2-0 with help from a hat trick by Vivek Achutan (3L) in the second game. Watch for these boys in the playoffs!

Last season's league Champions, Women's Volleyball team looks even stronger this year with the addition of several enthusiastic 1Ls. The ladies had a good first showing in the seeding tournament going 2-1 and began regular season play Sept. 27th. Keep your eyes out for the Co-Rec Volleyball team in the upcoming weeks.

Men's Hockey will soon be underway. This year the faculty has registered teams in Divisions 1 and 2 and look to be competitive as always. Regular Friday hockey and Intramural practice time will start up in the next few weeks. We will once again be sending a team to the annual Western Canada Law School Hockey Tournament, in Vancouver, October 20th to 24th. Stay tuned for more information on the tournament and the possibility of a women's tournament team.

Registration for men's and women's Basketball, women's Hockey and men's Ball Hockey will be arriving soon. Keep an eye on the Sports Board for more information.

In Club Land, the men's Rugby Club is fielding its largest team ever (a good thing considering the number of players currently on Injured Reserve!). In the Bearristers' first game on Sept. 26th against the Norwesters, they managed to hold onto a draw up until half time but unfortunately went on to lose. Up next is the always entertaining Annual Alumni Rugby Fest on Sat. Oct. 3rd, 2pm at Norwester Field. This guaranteed victory should prove to be a great warm-up for their upcoming 'Rocky Mountain Tour'! [game results unavailable at press time to include in this issue.]

The Lady Bearristers are also fielding their largest and most competitive team ever. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our Clansmen coaches, the ladies will be in fine form when they face the Clanswomen on a tentatively scheduled game Thursday, Oct. 14th at Kinsmen field.

The Women's Law Running Club is once again gearing up for their annual entry (30 strong!) in the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's Run For the Cure. The run starts 10am on Sunday, Oct. 3rd from the Butterdome on a 5km loop around campus.

Special thanks to Andrew Kay (2L) for all his enthusiastic help with men's Intramurals, and to all those (in particular, my fellow L.S.A. Executive), for all their help with the Law's A Beach Slo-Pitch and El Hacko Golf Tournaments.

Until next time, play safe!

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